



Minutes of the Rotary Club of Exe Valley Council Meeting

6th September 2017 at Hartnoll Hotel, Bolham

- 1) Present were Les Christiansen Andrew Harris Ken Mills Charles Denman David Disney and Chris King
- 2) Apologies received from Chris Steele and Tony Steiner
- 3) Minutes of the Council meeting dated 5th July were approved after striking out a duplicated paragraph. There are two matters arising
 - a) Tanzanian water project has been deferred pending further information
 - b) Hearing loop at the hotel - President held talks with the hotel manager (Simon English) who rejects any suggestion they are under an obligation to install a loop but may be prepared to make a small donation if EVRC paid the majority. Given the hotel would be able to offset the costs against tax and reclaim VAT if charged this was not thought to be a helpful response. KM agreed to seek alternative quotes for discussions to then resume. Members recognised that not all hearing aids can take advantage of the loop system.
- 4) President reported that the hotel intend increasing the charge for meals by £1 from mid-September. (Their chef had suggested a £2 increment). It was two years since the last increase. No alternative suggestions were forthcoming.
- 5) The president asked for council's confirmation that club should present the Uffculme show on 7 May 2018. Agreed. Council noted that at a club meeting on 23rd of August members present sanctioned the secretary to advertise to trade and craft community that the Uffculme show will proceed with a craft marquee of similar size to 2017 and at the same price per pitch - subject to the landowners' permission. The president asked the Treasurer to prepare a budget based on last year's outlays for circulation and suggested monthly show meetings on the third Wednesday of each month commencing October but excluding a meeting in the Christmas week. Approved.
- 6) Funding requests
 - a) The deferred request for help funding picnic table and bench at Uffculme - Rotarian Taylor had written in support of acceding in full. The matter had been considered by the Community committee whose recommendation is that club contribute the cost of one at £480 plus £20 for a plaque indicating clubs involvement in funding. Council endorsed their recommendation.
 - b) Council had received an application for funding from an - Oxford University student seeking help towards -course fees said to be £15,300. After discussion it was felt that funds raised into the club's charity account were better preserved for other causes and this application was declined. Secretary to advise.
 - c) The secretary reminded members that a recent speaker Spencer Watts had been informative and entertaining regarding his experiences as a paralysed sportsman. He was allied to the Matt Hampson Foundation which relied upon charitable donations. AH proposed a donation by club of £250 to that foundation. Seconded David Disney. Approved. AH to send payee details to Treasurer.

- d) AH explained the request from district for sponsorship for the 2018 Rotary youth games at a suggested £90 per club. They sought £30 now but AH suggested better to make a decision now to avoid having to revisit later. He proposed £90 be paid.
Seconded CD Carried
- 7) The treasurer explained the difficulties encountered at the Tiverton hospital in accessing funds previously donated for the ongoing maintenance of the fish tank and ornamental fish cared for by one of the hospital staff. It appears a change of NHS trust has resulted in bureaucratic issues that prevent her from accessing those funds. Council agreed to try and help release them but also approved the Treasurer's proposal that this year's contribution be maintained but paid in cash subject to clubs approval and an appropriate paper trail.
- 8) Treasurer reported that just one member had not paid their subscription while one -still owed £5 -having been late in paying yet - offered the discounted -sum.
- 9) Other Reports were pre-circulated from the Treasurer Secretary and Community committee -. No matters arose save to note that:
- a) the two schools have both acknowledged receipt of payments.
 - b) The president is working with CHAT who are moving premises to see how club may be able to assist in more than simply financial ways
 - c) Volunteers to help marshal the - Hospiscare breakfast run planned locally on 17th September are needed.
 - d) Verbal F&F report anticipated to the main meeting
- 10) Charles Denman reported that the local custodian of the Shelterbox used in fundraising and demonstrations was looking for a successor. It was felt that club could offer to store the box in our shipping container to make it easier for a volunteer to be found from one of the local Rotary clubs if not from our own
- 11) The secretary pointed out that after next month the round £1 pound coin will no longer become legal tender. Members collecting cash for Meals and Draw will have to guard against inadvertently accepting that coinage from members during meetings.
- 12) Meeting ended at 7.55pm BST